

REMARKS

Upon entry of the foregoing Amendment, claims 1-7, 10-15, 17-19, and 24 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 6, and 14 have been amended; claims 8-9, 16, 20-23, and 25-26 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer; and no new claims are added. Applicants believes that this Amendment does not add new matter. In view of the foregoing Amendment and following Remarks, allowance of all the pending claims is requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that the allowability of claim 24 as well as for identifying the subject matter of claims 9 and 16 as allowable. Solely for purposes of expediting prosecution of this application, and expressly not as an admission of the propriety of the rejections, Applicants have amended claims 1, 6, and 14 to include the allowable subject matter of claims 9 and 16 and have canceled claims 20-23 and 25-26 thereby rendering any remaining rejections moot. Applicants expressly reserve the right to prosecute the subject matter of any canceled claim as well as any claim supported by the specification in one or more continuation applications. Applicant believes that the Amendment places the application in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

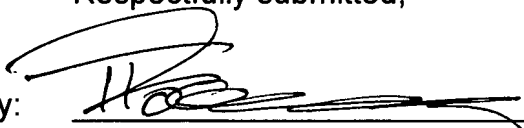
Having addressed each of the foregoing rejections, it is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Date: **7 August 2007**

Respectfully submitted,

By:


Rick A. Toering
Registration No. 43,195

PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN LLP
P.O. Box 10500
McLean, Virginia 22102
Main: 703-770-7900
Fax: 703-770-7901